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SUBJECT: Terms of Reference for a Senior Civilian Representative to Afghanistan

For the record, on December 31 the Afghan government approved the following terms of reference for a Senior Civilian Representative to Afghanistan.

Begin text.

Concept and Terms of Reference for a Senior Civilian Representative to Afghanistan

The Senior Civilian Representative to Afghanistan will be the multilateral face and voice of the international community to both the Government of Afghanistan and all international donors and organizations. The figure will provide political advice to ISAF and OEF on military activities in theater. We seek a high profile, senior-level European political figure for this role, which will require coordinating, proposing, and implementing international activities, including aid, in support of Afghan Government priorities and mobilizing new resources from foreign capitals and international organizations. To accomplish this role, the Representative must:

¶1. Direct all United Nations activities in Afghanistan as SRSG, including UN efforts in Kabul and the rest of Afghanistan by the pillars of the UN system responsible for activities there, including humanitarian, economic and development work. Coordinate, with the Afghan authorities, donor activity in Afghanistan itself, and manage UNAMA.

¶2. Be the principal multilateral civilian liaison with NATO-ISAF and Operation Enduring Freedom with structures for this liaison role.

¶3. Operate within the framework of, and serve as the lead international authority for the Afghanistan Compact and the Afghanistan National Development Strategy, and co-chair with the Afghan Government representative meetings of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB).

¶4. Work with the President of Afghanistan, the Afghan Government at senior levels and the international community to forge and maintain a common and comprehensive international strategy, in order to ensure unity of international effort across Afghanistan. Coordinate with other international institutions, non-governmental organizations and donors, in and outside Afghanistan with respect to development, humanitarian efforts, counternarcotics efforts and governance. Seek in particular to assure support for programs in all provinces, avoid duplication and share best practices, through the management of a consultative board of heads of key international organizations and/or heads of missions of major donor countries.

¶5. Work with the Government of Afghanistan at senior levels to effectively and accurately translate Afghan Government priorities into a coherent, countrywide strategy for international support.

¶6. While based in Kabul, travel extensively to international capitals in order to meet with senior officials, mobilize additional resources for Afghanistan, and coordinate diplomatic efforts for maximum impact. The role will require leveraging personal prestige

and relationships to mobilize resources and enhance political will among international donors.

¶7. In coordination with the Afghan Government and in furtherance of the London Declaration and the Afghanistan Compact, facilitate regional cooperation with neighboring countries of Afghanistan, including through the Representative's contacts. Regular travel to the capitals of neighboring countries would be appropriate.

¶8. Represent the UN Secretary General, working as lead coordinator on international action with the EU and NATO at the highest levels. In order to make his dialogue with the Government of Afghanistan more productive, maintain a close coordination among Ambassadors and other international representatives in Kabul and Governments involved in working for the stability and development of Afghanistan.

In these and all activities, the Government of Afghanistan is the ultimate decision-maker for Afghanistan.

End text.

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